United Nations E/2002/SR.30

Economic and Social Council

Provisional

24 October 2002

Original: English

Substantive session of 2002
General segment

Provisional summary record of the 30th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 18 July 2002, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. Rosenthal (Vice-President) ..... (Guatemala)

Contents

Coordination, programme and other questions

(a) Reports of coordination bodies

(b) Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

(c) International cooperation in the field of informatics

(d) Long-term programme of support for Haiti

(e) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

(f) Tobacco or health

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (*continued*)

(a) Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (*continued*)

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02-48892 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Coordination, programme and other questions (A/CONF.198/11)

(a) Reports of coordination bodies (A/57/16; E/2002/55)

(b) Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/57/6 (prog. 6-22 and 26) and 16)

(c) International cooperation in the field of informatics (A/57/72-E/2002/52; E/2002/78)

(d) Long-term programme of support for Haiti (E/2002/56)

(e) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (E/2002/66)

(f) Tobacco or health (E/2002/44)

1. **Ms. King** (Assistant Secretary-General, Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women), speaking on sub-item (e), said that the incorporation of gender perspectives into the different areas of United Nations work would further the Millennium development goals and the objectives of all the major United Nations conferences. Moreover, the Council's decision to include an agenda item on gender mainstreaming would allow it to monitor the progress made both in its own work and throughout the United Nations system.

2. The report of the Secretary-General in document E/2002/66 assessed the relevant work of the Council and its functional commissions and also of the catalytic Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality. Gender mainstreaming in the work of the governing bodies of the funds and programmes and the specialized agencies should also be monitored, but at the moment there was no mechanism for a systematic review of their decisions. A panel on gender mainstreaming in the Council's functional commissions had met the previous month to assist the Council and had focused on good practices, gaps, challenges, and future opportunities for reflecting gender perspectives in the areas of social development, forestry, crime prevention and criminal justice. A number of suggestions had been made: regular reports on gender mainstreaming by the functional commissions for review by the Council; consideration of the question at joint bureau meetings, with one member designated as a possible focal point; regular briefings by the Commission on the Status of Women or the Secretariat; and constant staff development.

3. **Mr. Mazet** (Chairman of the Committee for Programme and Coordination), speaking on sub-item (a) and introducing the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) (A/57/16), said that the Committee had considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004-2005 (A/57/85) at its forty-second session, had reviewed the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and was recommending for approval those revisions with some modifications, as indicated in chapter III.B of its report.

4. He drew attention to the recommendations in chapter III.B on those programmes of the medium-term plan that related to the Council's work: namely, the recommendations in paragraphs 107 and 108 on programme 7, Economic and social affairs, in paragraph 117 on programme 8, Africa: New Agenda for Development, and in paragraph 167 on programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa. In connection with programmes 9 to 13 and 15 to 19, the Committee was recommending approval of the proposed revisions, including those relating to human rights, with some modifications. It had also recommended the inclusion, with some modifications, of a proposed new programme 26, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.

5. He drew attention to the recommendation in chapter III.C of the CPC report that the Council should review relevant parts of the in-depth evaluation of the subprogrammes on General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and Council support and coordination (para. 271).

6. Chapter IV.A dealt with the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) for 2001 (E/2002/55); and a number of the CPC conclusions and recommendations relating to CEB were also germane to the work of the Council (paras. 316, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322 and 323). In chapter IV.B, the Committee had

emphasized that the development needs of Africa should remain a high priority (para. 334) and it had recommended that the United Nations system should develop a strategic operational framework to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) (para. 337).

7. In chapter VI, on working methods, the Committee had reiterated its recommendation that the relevant intergovernmental bodies, as well as the Economic and Social Council and the Main Committees of the General Assembly, should review the programmes of the medium-term plan and its revisions that were relevant to their work (para. 363).

8. He trusted that the Council would take appropriate action on those recommendations.

9. **Mr. Kageyama** (Chief, Systems Management Section, Information Technology Services Division), speaking on sub-item (c), and introducing the report in document E/2002/78, said that the technical subgroup of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics, working in close consultation with the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Task Force, had conducted a number of activities over the past year. It had held a conference on e-commerce, made a series of presentations on e-governments and bridgin the digital divide; and deployed anti-virus software to the permanent missions of Member States. In collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), it had provided information technology training for diplomats, although owing to unprecedented budget cuts, the Division had in the course of the year had to make some temporary reductions in its services to permanent missions.

10. In response to issues raised by the Ad Hoc Working Group, the Division had completed the re-engineering of the Optical Disk System into the Official Document System (ODS), now a purely Internet web-based system allowing access from anywhere in the world. Among the new possibilities offered by the new system were a multilingual search function, and direct access to documents in all languages from the United Nations web site.

11. The Division continued to provide the services for permanent missions outlined in paragraph 23. With technical support, the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services was trying to make the best use of information technology in the translation process by introducing a full-text and electronically searchable document repository, multilingual terminology databases, electronic reference support systems, voice-recognition software and document scanning.

12. **Dr. da Costa e Silva** (World Health Organization (WHO)), speaking on sub-item (f) and introducing the report in document E/2002/44, said that along with HIV/AIDS, the use of tobacco was the fastest growing, and single most preventable, cause of death in the world. The estimated number of deaths, 4.2 million in 2002, was expected to rise to 8.4 million in 2020, 70 per cent of them in the developing countries. The total number of female smokers was expected to increase from approximately 260 million in 2000 to approximately 325 million in 2020, with enormous consequences for health, income and family unless the epidemic was curtailed.

13. The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control (E/2002/44) gave the economic, social and public-health background of tobacco control. Despite evidence of the adverse impact of tobacco consumption, many Governments had, out of economic considerations, avoided taking effective steps, such as imposing higher taxes, banning advertising, or restricting smoking in public places. Yet, as a recent World Bank study had demonstrated, the economic fears were largely unfounded: higher tobacco taxes would not reduce tax revenues, and the reduction of per-capita tobacco consumption would result not in the loss of tobacco-related jobs but rather in investment in services in less harmful fields.

14. WHO had forecast future trends, taking into account projected population increases and assuming global implementation of effective tobacco-control policies: even if tobacco use decreased at an annual 1-per-cent rate for the next 20 and 50 years — which would represent a significant success — the total number of smokers predicted would still be higher than in the year 2000.

15. The issue of cigarette smuggling was high on the agenda of Governments and international organizations because of its impact on economies in the form of lost tax revenues and on public health as a result of increased consumption owing to lower prices. The illicit cigarette trade now stood at an estimated 6 to 8.5 per cent of global cigarette consumption.

16. The Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force had met twice, once in a video-conference session in December 2000 with the participation of eight United Nations organizations, the World Bank and the World Trade Organization (WTO); and again in December 2001, with the participation of seven United Nations organizations, the World Bank and the World Customs Organization (WCO). Considerable inter-agency work had been done on the economic, social and health issues involved in tobacco control.

17. The globalization of the tobacco epidemic meant that even countries with the most comprehensive tobacco-control programmes risked seeing their successes undone by transnational factors such as advertising and illicit trade. It had, however, given impetus to a multilateral commitment to protect present and future generations: WHO member States had negotiated the first treaty in WHO history, the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, which was expected to be adopted in 2003.

18. The main subjects of future collaboration that had emerged from the work of the Task Force were employment issues, children and youth, smoke-free policies in the United Nations system, and smuggling. Numerous ways had been identified in which Task Force members could facilitate the technical work relating to the Framework Convention, and that work had already begun.

19. **Mr. Christensen** (Observer for Denmark) speaking on behalf of the European Union and the associated countries Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey with regard to sub-item (a), called for increased dialogue between the Council and CEB and expressed appreciation for the support provided to the Council's functional commissions. The Union welcomed the increased United Nations coordination and would be interested to hear how the executive heads viewed the first year of working within the new format as well as their comments on the work of the High-level Committees on Programmes and Management.

20. The Union would also like to learn the executive heads' views on how to support country-level implementation of the Millennium development goals and to coordinate implementation of the HIV/AIDS declaration of commitments. It was interested in coordination regarding oceans and seas and, in view of the upcoming World Summit on Sustainable Development, would welcome comments by the executive heads on supporting preparations for the Summit and the CEB role in supporting the follow-up to the Summit. It was also pleased that the security of humanitarian staff remained a priority and would once again be submitting a draft resolution on that issue to the General Assembly.

21. **Mr. Hahn** (Observer for Denmark) speaking on behalf of the European Union, the associated countries Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey and, in addition, Iceland and Liechtenstein with regard to sub-item (e), said that, although progress had been made with respect to gender mainstreaming, gender issues were not always routinely taken into account when analysing issues and formulating policy. Opportunities to narrow gender gaps must continue to be identified and a comprehensive assessment must be made at a future coordination segment before 2005.

22. The European Union appreciated the progress made by the Council's subsidiary bodies in mainstreaming a gender perspective into their work. The Commission on the Status of Women of course played a catalytic role, while the Commission for Social Development had identified gender equality as crucial for social and people-centred sustainable development, a stance confirmed in the Monterrey Consensus. Other subsidiary bodies continued to use and call for sex-disaggregated data and to develop quantitative and qualitative indicators for assessing progress in the empowerment of women.

23. The European Union noted with appreciation the work of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality and its efforts to ensure that the CEB addressed gender perspectives systematically. In that context, it welcomed the commitment of the Security Council to considering humanitarian issues and the effect of conflict on women and children, as stated in its resolution 1325 (2000). It also welcomed efforts by the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to mainstream a gender perspective into its work. The Union had made gender mainstreaming a guiding principle of its intergovernmental processes, bilateral programmes and policies.

24. **Mr. Iwai** (Japan) welcomed the establishment of the new regular sub-item (e) on gender mainstreaming obstacles and said it was encouraging that women were increasingly perceived not only as having special needs but also as active contributors in areas such as forest management, sustainable social development and crime prevention. Unfortunately, the lack of gender-disaggregated data made effective analysis difficult, and he called for increased efforts to develop such data.

25. Coordination and collective efforts by United Nations bodies were essential for successful promotion of gender mainstreaming, and he commended the initiative taken by the Special Adviser on Gender Issues in holding the first session of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality. Member States and the United Nations system as a whole should share experience and information about best practices in the area of gender mainstreaming.

26. In Japan, the Council for Gender Equality and the Gender Equality Bureau of the Cabinet Office had taken the lead in implementing the Basic Plan for Gender Equality, which took into account the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly. Its goal was gender mainstreaming in Japanese society, and it contained concrete measures to that end. Efforts had been undertaken to expand women's participation in decision-making, review the social system and promote a gender equality perspective, for example by supporting both women's and men's efforts to balance work, family and community and by working to eliminate all forms of violence against women.

27. **Ms. Mudie** (Australia), speaking also on behalf of Canada and New Zealand, said that the new sub-item on gender mainstreaming provided an opportunity for the Council to evaluate lessons learned and identify and remedy obstacles to effective gender mainstreaming. The Beijing Platform for Action had established a comprehensive set of actions. The five-year review in 2000 had acknowledged gender mainstreaming as a globally accepted strategy and emphasized the need for political will and commitment at all levels to make mainstreaming a reality. Before 2005, the Council should devote a coordination segment to the review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of its agreed conclusions of 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming.

28. The report of the Secretary-General (E/2002/66) was encouraging and provided examples of how the functional commissions had focused on women-specific issues and mainstreamed a gender perspective. A major challenge for the Council would be to ensure that United Nations institutions and programmes which did not have a tradition of addressing women-specific situations or gender issues developed a clear understanding of how gender mainstreaming could enhance their work. She therefore welcomed the recognition by the multi-stakeholder dialogue of the United Nations Forum on Forests that women must be included in planning forestry policies and that outcomes should reflect the perspectives and experiences of women. All functional commissions, programmes and agencies should likewise implement gender mainstreaming in its broadest application.

29. In order to overcome remaining obstacles and challenges, key issues must be made gender-neutral and better understanding of the positive effects of gender mainstreaming must be promoted. More gender-specific information and data must be made available and areas which had the most potential for leverage from a gender perspective must be identified. Emphasis should be placed on measuring outcomes and developing results-oriented strategies, explicit decisions on gender mainstreaming should be adopted by subsidiary bodies and greater accountability should be required.

30. **Mr. Choulkov** (Russian Federation) expressed support for the work of CEB and said that the establishment within the Board's framework of two high level committees helped resolve the issue of inter-agency representation. Regrettably, however, the reform process was being hindered by the recent slackening of inter-agency cooperation on financial and budgetary issues. Such cooperation should be prioritized in the Board's work, given its importance in the transition to strategic budgeting.

31. The forthcoming World Summit on the Information Society should not focus exclusively on technical aspects of bridging the digital divide. It should also address the social, economic, political and cultural ramifications of the information society, in particular the contribution of ICT to sustainable development. The Summit should also draw lessons from past experience and devise bold, yet realistic new initiatives. The preparatory process should be provided with adequate funding to ensure its success and the

donor community and private sector should be mobilized accordingly.

32. The United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force had made a positive contribution to the development of a common approach to the use of ICT for development purposes. The Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics was, for its part, performing a useful role, given the importance of upgrading ICT throughout the United Nations system.

33. **Mr. Alexandre** (Observer for Haiti) said that, although economic recovery and reconstruction in Haiti were primarily the responsibility of the Government and the people of Haiti, a long-term programme of support for sustainable development would require a significant level of assistance, both material and financial, on the part of the international community, with the practical modalities for that support to be defined in consultation between international partners and the Government.

34. His Government was working to improve the grave economic situation in the country, while at the same time ensuring respect for democracy and taking full advantage of international support. Despite progress made, however, certain international donors had suspended vital assistance to his Government and had made the restoration of that assistance conditional on a solution to the political crisis.

35. He reaffirmed his Government's commitment to resolving the political crisis. It had undertaken negotiations and responded to concerns expressed by the Organization of American States (OAS). His Government was also meeting its commitments to international partners. It had cooperated with the OAS and Inter-American Commission on Human Rights mission for strengthening democracy in Haiti and President Aristide himself had intervened in the political negotiations. Unfortunately, exaggerated demands from some elements of the opposition were creating difficulties and the Government had no right to impose a solution.

36. Attempts to make a renewal of assistance conditional on the signing of an agreement which would reflect the will of only one of the parties could but strengthen the opposition's refusal to negotiate. The result would be continued poverty and suffering. Haitians had the right to expect better, given the goals set out in the Millennium Declaration.

37. The Secretary-General had stated that it seemed unfair to reduce support for a country whose needs were so great. The long-term programme of support should not be held hostage. The report of the Secretary-General (E/2002/56) cited the conclusion of the World Bank to the effect that Haiti was an extreme case of a country caught in a vicious circle of unemployment, inequality, poor education, lawlessness and violence (para. 11). International financial assistance was the key to breaking that vicious circle, which affected political stability and socio-economic development.

38. **Mr. Ouattara** (Burkina Faso) welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on the long-term programme of support for Haiti (E/2002/56), where the prevailing political and institutional situation had inevitable socio-economic effects. The United Nations system and all development partners must continue to provide assistance to the millions of Haitians living in poverty. Haiti, which was both a least developed country and a small island developing State, and therefore doubly vulnerable, merited special support for poverty eradication and sustainable development. His delegation urged the Council to request regular progress reports on the subject of the long-term programme of support under review.

39. **Ms. Taracena-Secatra** (Guatemala), speaking on sub-item (e), welcomed the report of the Secretary-General (E/2002/66) and the creation of a task force to look into ways for the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality to collaborate with the new CEB structure.

40. At the domestic level, her Government and its Presidential Secretariat for Women had developed a policy for the Promotion and Advancement of Guatemalan Women and a plan to give women equitable opportunities in nine principal areas. Unfortunately, the lack of sex-disaggregated data and gender-specific information made it difficult to promote a gender perspective.

41. She supported the recommendations of the Secretary-General regarding the Council's functional commissions and subsidiary bodies. Her delegation believed that gender mainstreaming within the United Nations was essential in order to complement the work of Governments at the national level. Efforts to make gender mainstreaming universal would contribute to the eradication of poverty and to realization of the Millennium development goals.

42. **Mr. Blanco Dominguez** (Observer for the Dominican Republic) said that free access to ICT was a matter of great importance to his Government. His delegation welcomed United Nations efforts to transfer knowledge and technology to developing countries in order to assist them in carrying out their national development plans and strategies. It supported the strengthening of the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force, and looked forward to active participation in the forthcoming World Summit on the Information Society.

43. His delegation also supported the decision of the General Assembly in its resolution 56/206 to transform the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT) into the secretariat of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

44. Providing effective follow-up to the major conferences and summits was one of the greatest challenges facing the Council, and its work to ensure the implementation of the Millennium Declaration, the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of the forthcoming World Summit on Sustainable Development would give it an opportunity to fulfil the role accorded to it by the Charter. His delegation looked forward to receiving progress reports on those follow-up activities. It supported the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in all policies and programmes, and it welcomed the review of the role of non-governmental organizations in gender mainstreaming recently conducted by the Commission on Social Development. The Intergovernmental Forum on Forests had also included women in all aspects of planning and decision-making, which was a welcome development.

45. Finally, his delegation expressed its support to the Haitian people and stressed the need to assist them at all levels in mobilizing to achieve the Millennium development goals.

46. **Mr. Kolby** (Observer for Norway) said that the resolution adopted by the Council at its 2001 substantive session had been an important step towards strengthening the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all policies and programmes. Real change did not happen, however, without real commitment, hard work and a strategic approach. His delegation found the recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's report (E/2002/66) useful, particularly the recommendation that the Council, its subsidiary bodies and the functional commissions should address gender perspectives in relation to thematic issues more systematically. It also agreed on the need to improve the situation regarding gender-specific information and data disaggregated by sex. In future reports, his delegation would encourage more emphasis on analysis and lessons learned.

47. **Mr. Valera** (Mexico), commenting on sub-items (d) and (e), said that his delegation welcomed the report on the long-term programme of support for Haiti. The stabilization of the situation in Haiti, with the support of OAS, would facilitate the resumption of international assistance. His delegation was also pleased that the item would remain on the Council's agenda for subsequent sessions. The long-term programme should aim at building national capacity in such key sectors as health care, education, trade and investment, as well as institution-building, human rights, and combating HIV/AIDS and poverty.

48. Turning to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective, he said that Mexico attached great importance to that theme, and, as an active participant in the Commission on the Status of Women, it had supported major initiatives in that area. His Government had established an independent National Institute for Women and an equal opportunity programme. The Council's consideration of the item would provide an opportunity to evaluate progress in implementation of the outcome of the Beijing Conference.

49. **Mr. Muchetwa** (Zimbabwe), referring to sub-item (f), said that tobacco remained the largest earner of foreign currency for Zimbabwe, contributing more than $663 million in export earnings in 2001. The tobacco industry accounted for 30 to 33 per cent of the gross domestic product, and was the nation's largest employer. The draft Framework Convention on Tobacco Control thus presented a serious economic and social threat to the country's future.

50. Regrettably, the methodology used by FAO in country case studies lacked any adjustment mechanisms. Moreover, it would be logical to analyse the results of those case studies before considering a legally binding convention, and it was important to uphold the principle of consensus. Careful attention should be given to the possible impact of tobacco control in the long term, the feasibility of alternative crops and appropriate guarantees for the agrarian

economies that would be affected, including compensation for losses incurred.

51. Although transparency and the involvement of all stakeholders had been called for, there had not been full consultations in the process of formulating the Framework. Tobacco-related diseases were not alone in killing millions of people: such epidemics as HIV/AIDS and malaria were equally or more devastating. The employment aspect of the tobacco industry was grossly understated in the report.

52. None of the studies carried out on crop diversification in Zimbabwe and Malawi could come up with a replacement for tobacco. Emphasis should be placed on assisting those countries to move away from tobacco production and engage in other remunerative activities. The Secretary-General's report admitted that the requirements for adjustment assistance had not been addressed to date. His delegation strongly recommended that the final version of the Framework Convention should embrace the concerns and problems of Zimbabwe and other countries in a similar situation.

53. **Mr. Rojas** (Chile) said that the question of Haiti had been on the agenda of the Security Council since the early 1990s, and the Secretary-General had established a Group of Friends of Haiti (Argentina, Canada, France, the United States of America and Venezuela) to assist in seeking solutions to its complex political, social and economic problems. On becoming a member of the Security Council in 1996, Chile had immediately joined in supporting those efforts. For the same reasons, Chile attached great importance to the Secretary-General's report on the long-term programme of support for Haiti and would participate actively in all efforts, within both the United Nations system and OAS, to consolidate democratic institutions and establish a climate of security and stability, thereby facilitating its economic and social development. His delegation called on the international community to support those efforts through cooperation and financial assistance. His delegation intended to join the sponsors of the draft resolution in support of the programme.

54. **Mr. Carter** (United States of America) said that mitigation of humanitarian distress in Haiti was a priority for his Government, which also supported efforts by OAS and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) to address human rights issues. His delegation would join the sponsors of the related draft resolution and requested that the Council should include the item in its agenda for the 2003 substantive session.

55. **Mr. Aho-Glélé** (Benin), speaking as coordinator of the Group of the Least Developed Countries with reference to the long-term programme for Haiti, said that the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries called for people-centred programmes and development. The fundamental principles of United Nations operational activities — universality and neutrality — must be upheld in implementing the programme. No reference to criteria or concepts outside the programme of support should be made in the draft resolution, and no political conditions imposed on the assistance to be provided. Finally, he paid tribute to the work of the Chairman of CPC in relation to the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries.

56. **Mr. Reyes Rodriguez** (Cuba) said that his delegation considered the mainstreaming of a gender perspective one of the most important aspects of the work of the Organization. Of all the major conferences of the 1990s, the Fourth World Conference on Women had done the most to raise awareness in Governments around the world. The personal efforts and commitment of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General had been key to that success.

57. With regard to the issue of tobacco and health, his country, like Zimbabwe, was a major producer of tobacco, although less dependent on it for export earnings. It hoped that an equal level of enthusiasm would be displayed in fighting abuse of alcohol, not only in the developing countries but in the major producers. His Government was working to reduce the use of tobacco, but it felt that, in drafting the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, attention should be paid to the characteristics and conditions of producer countries. Integral solutions should be sought that allowed progress both in health and in sustainable development and poverty alleviation.

58. His Government expressed its solidarity with the Haitian people in their struggle for self-determination. Unfortunately, their political, social and economic development had been interrupted by intervention from a regional Power. The Cuban people had provided unconditional support through assistance in such areas as health care and literacy. His delegation was surprised at the conditions selectively imposed on Haiti

by OAS and believed that unrelated political matters should be left out of the relevant resolution.

59. **Mr. Civili** (Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination), with regard to the report of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) (E/2002/55), said that he would take note of the issues raised. In response to the representative of the Russian Federation, who had expressed concern that inadequate attention was being paid to coordination in the area of finance, he said that in creating the High-level Committee on Management there had been no intention to divert attention, but rather a desire to ensure an integrated approach, in parallel to the action taken in many similar bodies. Networking was currently more active in personnel areas than in finance, however.

60. **Mr. Moir** (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)), addressing sub-item (f), said that FAO had undertaken a project consisting of studies focusing on various aspects of the global tobacco economy. The results indicated that if current policies continued, global tobacco production and consumption would continue to grow, aided by expanding populations and increasing incomes. In developing countries, consumption would continue to rise. An alternative projection assumed that taxes on consumption would be increased significantly and that support for tobacco farming would be reduced. The impact of such measures would be modest, since taxation rates would remain heaviest in developed countries where consumption was already contracting. In developing countries, the fiscal burden would be smaller and demand would continue to rise.

61. The impact of tobacco control measures on tobacco-producing countries would depend on many factors, particularly on the existence of alternative economic opportunities. Farmers would be unlikely to switch to other crops unless the price of tobacco fell significantly. Gradual adjustment to a lower level of tobacco production would, however, be possible, with limited economic consequences in the long run. Assistance from the international community would make the adjustment less painful for poorer countries, especially those heavily dependent on tobacco.

62. **Ms. Hakahsta** (International Labour Organization (ILO)) said that policy makers should recognize that all workers had the right to a safe and healthy work environment and should treat smoking as an occupational health and safety problem. Not only did passive smoking in the workplace cause cancer and other serious illnesses, but it also increased the risk of fires and explosions and created the potential for stress and violence resulting from conflicts between smokers and non-smokers. Moreover, the synergistic effects on health of tobacco, chemicals, substances such as asbestos and radiation should not be ignored.

63. It was in the interest of all Governments to use the workplace to raise awareness of smoking and other health-related issues. It was also in the interests of employers to curb smoking on their premises, in view of absenteeism, increased health and maintenance costs, and tobacco's negative impact on insurance premiums and retirement funds.

64. Discrimination against workers on the basis of their tobacco habit must not be tolerated, whether during recruitment or at work. Equally, workers seeking to achieve a workplace free of tobacco smoke must not be stigmatized. Policies on smoking at work should be universal and unambiguous. They should apply to all types of public and private employment, including in the informal sector, and should apply to management and workers equally. Policy makers should also recognize the gender dimensions of tobacco use. The successful implementation of policy on tobacco smoke required cooperation and trust between employers and workers, as well as changes in attitudes and behaviour. Support should be given both to non-smokers — who had the right to breathe clean air — and to those wishing to quit smoking. All workers should have access to affordable health services and cessation assistance.

65. **Ms. de Beyer** (World Bank) said that the United Nations Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control, in which the World Bank participated, had continued to share expertise and information on the most effective ways to reduce tobacco use within a sound economic and social framework. The World Bank study entitled *Curbing the Epidemic: Governments and the Economics of Tobacco Control* showed that tobacco control in most countries could be implemented without a net loss of jobs, without causing a significant increase in smuggling, and without imposing an added burden on poor families.

66. A substantial and growing body of country-specific evidence from developing countries on economic and social issues related to tobacco control confirmed earlier global evidence that most countries

could actually reduce tobacco use, save lives and improve health while increasing government revenues. New jobs would be created in other sectors, compensating for the jobs lost in the tobacco sector. Smokers who quit or cut back in response to higher prices would enjoy longer, healthier lives and have more to spend on other goods and services.

67. In the longer term, special measures might be needed to help the countries, regions and communities that were particularly vulnerable to world tobacco market declines. It was important, however, to "work for the greatest good" and not to forgo the potentially huge gains in health, productivity and life expectancy that proven, cost-effective measures to reduce tobacco could deliver. Although thousands, or at most a few million, jobs might be at risk if tobacco use declined dramatically, the health, productivity and lives of at least twelve hundred million smokers were currently at risk from tobacco use. Revenues from higher tobacco taxes could also be used to compensate tobacco farmers and workers.

68. Although the global market for tobacco would remain for the foreseeable future, the international community must act to curb and gradually reverse its growth, including by changing national policies on land ownership and cultivation.

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (*continued*) (E/2002/12 and Corr.1)

(a) Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (*continued*) (E/2002/48, 53, 57 and 64)

69. **Mr. Wahba** (United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)) said that UNDP had been a main stakeholder in the preparatory process of the International Conference on Financing for Development held at Monterrey, contributing more than 130 country experiences. The agency continued to be actively concerned with follow-up, not only in the context of intergovernmental policy dialogue, but also in its operational activities for development at the country level. Convinced that a review of UNDP support to development operations would prove useful to policy analysis and follow-up, his delegation wished to propose that UNDP should participate in the Council's annual dialogue with representatives of the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization. UNDP was fully supportive of a strong link between financing for development and attaining internally agreed development goals, and it was also keen to report to the Council on its activities in that regard.

70. **Ms. Sidikov** (International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity), speaking on behalf of the Interim Facilitating Group of Non-Governmental Organizations providing follow-up to the Monterrey Consensus and financing for development process, said that the International Conference on Financing for Development had promised to be a unique opportunity for Governments to make concrete commitments to tackle persistent development deficits. However, its outcome had been somewhat disappointing. More action was needed to achieve Millennium development goals, in particular that of halving the number of people living in poverty. The network thus urged Governments to increase their support for Conference follow-up.

71. The Secretary-General, for his part, should ensure effective secretariat support within the United Nations. The organizations on whose behalf she spoke also supported the creation of an "Economic and Social Security Council" that would have the same standing as the Security Council in its respective field. Indeed, strengthening the role of the Economic and Social Council was a first step in that direction. Governments should involve a broader range of ministries in the work of the Council. The Council, for its part, should hold shorter and more regular meetings to review follow-up and to ensure that it was able to respond appropriately to actual economic and social circumstances. An effective mechanism should also be established for substantive engagement on specific issues with the Bretton Woods institutions and WTO, with appropriate secretariat support and the participation of civil society. The General Assembly, for its part, should reconstitute its high-level dialogue on strengthening international cooperation so that it might serve as a focal point for policy coordination and Conference follow-up, with the involvement of relevant international institutions and non-governmental organizations.

72. It was the hope of the network that the Monterrey follow-up process would truly enhance the quality of life of many of the world's poorest people and not merely result in a set of basic principles or objectives.

The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.